



State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

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STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

The Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, July 26, 2006, at the Claiborne Building, Board of Regents Conference Room, 6-240/242, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Committee Chair Michael Abbiatti called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. The roll was called by Ms. Diane Didier, Support Staff for the Committee, and a quorum was established.

Committee Members Present:

Michael Abbiatti (Chair)

Chief Robert Black
Lt. Colonel Joseph Booth
Arnold Chauviere
Chief Don Dixon
Joe Drago
Sheriff Ricky Edwards
Matt Farlow
Michelle Fontenot

Heywood Jeffers

Pat Potier
Colonel Eric Sivula
Lt. Colonel Brian Spillman

Committee Members Absent:

Rizwan Ahmed (Vice-Chair)

Richard Gremillion

Senator Robert Marionneaux
Lt. Colonel Robert Morris
Representative Francis Thompson

Representing Agency:

LA Broadband Advisory Council/
LA Board of Regents
LA Fire Chief's Association
LA State Police
LA Public Service Commission
Police Chief's Association
Dept. of Transportation/Development
LA Sheriff's Association
GOHSEP
LA House of Representatives Committee
on Administration of Criminal Justice
LA Senate Select Committee on
Homeland Security
Dept. of Health & Hospitals
Dept. of Public Safety/Corrections Services
Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

Representing Agency:

Division of Administration &
Office of Information Technology
Regional Parish Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness Directors
Committee
LA State Senate Judiciary B Committee
LA National Guard
LA House of Representatives Special
Committee on LA Homeland Security

State/Parish Agency Representatives Present:

John Butterick
Eric Deroche
Colonel Kenneth Hughes
Michael Ranatza
Tommy Thiebaud

Region 5 Calcasieu OHSEP
Region 3 Assumption/St. James OHSEP
Region 1 Plaquemines OHSEP
LA Commission on Law Enforcement
Region 9 Washington OHSEP

Support Staff Present:

Diane Didier (LA Board of Regents)

**Guest List
See Appendix**

III. Approval of the Minutes of July 19, 2006

Mr. Michael Abbiatti, Chair, asked for a motion to approve the July 19, 2006 minutes.

On motion of Mr. Eric Deroche, seconded by Colonel Eric Sivula, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of July 19, 2006.

IV. Special Presentations

Mr. Abbiatti introduced Chief Don Dixon, LACP, Lake Charles Police Department. Chief Dixon talked about their communication system at the Lake Charles Police Department.

Mr. Abbiatti inquired about the Louisiana National Guard and Louisiana Department of Public Safety/Louisiana State Police in New Orleans. Mr. Rex McDonald mentioned that the quality of the audio system was good; overall the communication system is going very well. Mr. Abbiatti asked Mr. McDonald for a follow-up situation report at the August 2nd meeting.

Mr. Abbiatti commented on the Gulf Coast Interoperability Summit Grant Request and talked about the summary proposal distributed to the Committee members. He then asked

the Committee to think about representatives from the four (4) SIEC Sub-Committee to work on the Summit.

Mr. Abbiatti reported on his meeting with the Region 8 Ouachita OHSEP in Monroe, Louisiana. He then mentioned that Mr. Michael Ranatza was recognized at the Police Chief's Conference on Saturday, July 22nd in New Orleans.

The Committee members broke out in assigned sub-committees at 1:55 p.m.

V. Sub-Committee Progress Reports

The SIEC members returned to full meeting at 3:15 p.m. Reports were given from the four (4) sub-committees.

Mr. Abbiatti called the full meeting back to order. He then asked for the report from Lt. Colonel Joseph Booth of the Assessment Sub-Committee. Lt. Colonel Booth mentioned that the Needs Assessment Surveys were being returned with good information and that surveys are still being submitted in his office. No further actions are required. Mr. Abbiatti mentioned that the information from the survey would be accurate data for future funding for SIEC.

Mr. Abbiatti asked for the report of the Technology Sub-Committee. Chief Robert Black reported that there was discussion regarding issues that need to be addressed for the users/subscribers, private call users. He then inquired about using LSU Engineers for technical support with the Technology Sub-Committee. There was further discussion to form three (3) small sub-committees for back up and technical support. Lt. Colonel Booth reported Mr. Joe Drago, Mr. Eric Deroche, Mr. Rex McDonald, Mr. Richard Silverman, and he volunteered for the Summit Sub-Committee.

Mr. Abbiatti gave his report on the Funding and Finance Sub-Committee. He then introduced Brigadier General Hunt Downer representing the Governor's Legislative Office. Mr. Abbiatti commented that Brigadier General Downer will be assisting the Sub-Committee with the Legislative package to present to the legislators at the next session. He

then mentioned that the contact with other states for the Gulf Coast Summit will include legislators, media, etc.

Mr. Abbiatti gave the report of the Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee on behalf of Ms. Susan Severance. He reported that there was discussion on multiple groups in a tiered configuration. There was further discussion regarding clarification on work groups and requested a document. Mr. Tommy Thidbaud mentioned that there was discussion to change the Executive Order, SECTION 5: A. 3 and 4, to read chief of police and fire chief designee instead of representing.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Abbiatti mentioned that two (2) parishes have contacted him to join the 700 MHz network, Tangipahoa Parish and Avoyelles Parish. He then commented that the Technology Sub-Committee needs to set up criteria for the parishes to join the SIEC network. Chief Black commented on a report from Mr. McDonald that there is a staffing problem to collect information for the system. After further discussion regarding the statewide communication system, Lt. Colonel Booth mentioned that he will send the State Police MOU policy as a sample to the Technology Sub-Committee. The Committee members may modify the policy to meet their specific needs.

After further discussion,

On motion of Lt. Colonel Joseph Booth, seconded by Colonel Eric Sivula, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation to direct the State Police to add Tangipahoa and Avoyelles Parishes to the statewide communication system.

VII. New Business

Mr. Eric Deroche suggested for the SIEC to list the accomplishments, goals, and what systems are in place at the present time and send to First Responders, Associations, etc. Mr. Abbiatti said he will accept the assignment and send the document on the SIEC listserv.

VIII. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

IX. Adjournment

In the absence of further business, Interim Chair Chief Black adjourned the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee meeting at 4:00 p.m.

**APPENDIX
GUEST LIST
July 26, 2006**

NAME

AFFILIATION

Richard Silverman

DEQ

Christina Dayires

LA State Police

Paul Belkin

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Clay Henry

Acadian Ambulance, Region 4

Raj Iyer

Motorola

Cathy Trenkle

BEMS/LERN

Gary Peters

LERN

Robert Hale

LSUBR Police

Matt Farlow

GOHSEP

Rex McDonald

DPS

Brigadier General Hunt Downer

Governor's Legislative Office